THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank Report on Urban Transport Sector

2790. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report of the World Bank on, "India's Transport Sector; The Challenges Ahead", highlighting the need to establish more effective institutional financial and technical capabilities and functional coordination amongst various agencies operating in the urban transport sector; and

(b) if so, the details of major observations/recommendations contained in the report and the action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) In its report entitled "India's Transport Sector: The Challenges Ahead", the World Bank made a number of recommendations including strengthening of the Institutional mechanism, financial and technical capabilities and functional coordination amongst various agencies operating in the Urban Transport Sector.

(b) The recommended actions for Urban Transport are as follows:—

SHORT TERM

* Refine and disseminate Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviations Policy recommendations through the publication of policy guidelines, workshops, financial support for pilot reform programmes etc;
* Develop a bus transport reform action plan;
* Develop a time bound action plan to reform urban transport institutions and financial mechanisms.
* Encourage use of alternative fuels;
* Set up traffic engineering and management units;

* Build a knowledge base on the transport needs of the urban poor;

MEDIUM TERM

* Create a Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority for large metropolitan regions;

* Amend municipal laws to make Urban Local Bodies responsible for traffic regulation and management;

* Improve funding for urban transport, including possible non-lapsable transport funds, with contribution from user charges and from Central, State, and municipal agencies.

As the primary responsibility of Urban Transport is that of the State Governments, it is proposed to initiate consultations with the State Governments in this regard.

Order for Bogies for metro rail in Delhi

†2791. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have placed the order for the bogies based on latest Japanese technique for Metro Rail in Delhi;

(b) if so, number of bogies to be imported and total amount spent for the purpose;

(c) the reasons for not manufacturing the said bogies indigenously; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to ensure the indigenous manufacturing of such bogies in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI. O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) Orders for procurement of coaches, based on latest Japanese and Korean technology, have been placed by Delhi Metro Corporation.

(b) 60 coaches are to be imported at a cost of Rs. 392 crores.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi